



**September 11, 2006**

(Online at <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a27/enewsletter.htm>)

## Historic Legislative Session Ends on High Note

*Session Produced First On-time Budget in Years,  
Major Legislation on Global Warming  
and the Minimum Wage*

### *21 Laird Bills Sent to the Governor*

Called "one of the most productive legislative sessions in decades" (*San Francisco Chronicle*, 8/31/06), this year's session produced a number of landmark bills for the governor to consider. After working throughout the spring to craft a balanced, compassionate budget that was passed on-time for the first time since 2000, I was proud to work for passage of several landmark bills, just a few of which include:

- An historic bill to combat global warming by passing first-in-the-nation limits on greenhouse gases. (AB 32)
- A bill to establish universal healthcare in California. (SB 840)
- A bill that adds \$3 billion to the coffers for our schools, targeting the money to the lowest-performing schools and to hiring high-quality teachers so schools can reduce class sizes to 25 students in grades 4-12. (SB 1133)
- A bill to increase the minimum wage to \$8 per hour by 2008. (AB 1835)

Among bills I authored covering a wide range of issues of local and statewide interest, twenty have been sent to the governor for his signature, some of which include:

- Pajaro River Flood Control (AB 2348)—[press release](#), [press coverage](#).
- Civil Rights Housing Act (AB 2800)—[press release](#), [press coverage](#).
- Water Conservation/Toilet Flush Standards (AB 2496)—[press release](#), [press coverage](#).
- Water Conservation/Landscape Irrigation (AB 1881)—[press release](#), [press coverage](#).
- Sea Otter Protections (AB 2485, jointly authored with Assemblymember Jones)—[press release](#), [press coverage](#).
- Fort Ord Veterans Cemetery (AB 3035)—[press release](#), [press coverage](#).
- Monterey Peninsula Airport Modernization (AB 2650)—[press release](#), [press coverage](#).
- New Cities Incorporation (AB 1602)—[press release](#), [press coverage](#).

### **John in the District**

9/12 California Association of Museums Award Presentation, Monterey

9/12 Groundbreaking Ceremony at Gavilan College, Gilroy

9/13 Santa Cruz City Schools Board Meeting

9/14 Dominican Hospital 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, Santa Cruz

9/14 Second Harvest Food Bank Dinner, Santa Cruz

9/15 Santa Clara & San Benito Building & Construction Trades Council Annual Builders for Charity Fundraiser BBQ, San Jose

9/16 Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation BBQ, Seaside

9/18 CA Conference of Local Public Health Nursing Directors, Pacific Grove

9/18 Cabrillo College Federation of Teachers Council Meeting, Aptos

9/19 Carmel Womens' Club Luncheon, Carmel

9/19 San Lorenzo Valley Fire Station Roll-call All-volunteer Night

9/26 Morgan Hill Unified School District Board Meeting

9/29 Morgan Hill Upper Llagas Creek Watershed Project

Two bills have already been signed by the governor: one protects homeowners (AB 2100) and one reforms the local-state government mandate reimbursement process (AB 2652)—[press release](#).

For more on legislation I carried this year, visit my [Website](#).

Though there were dozens of key legislative victories this year, there are a number of issues that will need to be addressed next year including greater access to food stamps, the availability of state funds for needle exchange programs, children's universal healthcare and repairs to the Delta levee system. I worked hard on these issues and hope to continue work when the legislative session resumes in December.

It's good to be home from Sacramento. I'm looking forward to a few invigorating weeks of meetings with constituents and community organizations across the 27th Assembly District to get updates on key issues before I return to Sacramento for the next legislative session.

---

### **Assemblymember Laird's Office Named a Family-Friendly Workplace by United Way/Success By 6 And the Santa Cruz County Breastfeeding Coalition**



*John with Margaret Ellis, Representative for the Santa Cruz County Breastfeeding Coalition, Shebreh Kalantari, Director of Community Building for United Way of Santa Cruz County, and Allison Endert, John's Santa Cruz County District Director*

---

If you're receiving this as a forwarded email and would like to receive regular Laird updates, please send an email with "Subscribe" in the subject line to [Assemblymember.Laird-newsletter@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Laird-newsletter@assembly.ca.gov). If you would prefer to not receive email updates, please respond with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

#### **Meeting**

9/29 Castro Plaza Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Castroville

9/30 CEMEX Davenport Centennial Celebration BBQ

---

#### **John on Global Warming**



Click on the Earth to check out John's views and legislation on climate issues, get the details on the historic global warming bill, and learn what you can do to make a difference.

---

#### **Santa Cruz County Office**

701 Ocean Street, 318-B  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
831-425-1503 (tel)  
831-425-2570 (fax)

#### **Monterey/Santa Clara County Office**

99 Pacific Street, 555D  
Monterey, CA 93940  
831-649-2832 (tel)  
831-649-2935 (fax)  
408-782-0647 (Santa Clara County Direct Line)

#### **Capitol Office**

State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0027  
916-319-2027 (tel)  
916-319-2127 (fax)